Afghanistan in their reconstruction and development efforts was based on the historically close relations between the two countries. There are approximately 2000 Indian nationals working in Afghanistan on Government of India/and aid projects for private companies from India and other countries, international organizations and Government of Afghanistan. Indians engaged in Government of India aid projects are provided security by the Governments of Afghanistan and India under bilateral arrangements. Those working with private companies, international organizations and Government of Afghanistan are provided security by their respective employers.

The Embassy of India in Kabul is in close touch with the Government of Afghanistan on the subject of ensuring the security of Indians working in Afghanistan. A security advisory was issued by the Embassy of India, Kabul to all Indians and their companies working in Afghanistan soon after the killing of BRO official in November 2005. Additional security personnel have been deployed at the BRO's road project locations. Subsequently, the Embassy had held meetings with representatives of Indian companies to emphasise the need for observing security precautions strictly. Workers from private companies, international organizations and Government of Afghanistan are advised to insist on satisfactory security arrangements from their employers and to also comply with security instructions. All Indians working in Afghanistan are urged to register themselves with the Embassy of India, Kabul. Government of Afghanistan has deployed local police guards at the sites of Indian projects in Afghanistan. In addition, as and when required, additional security is provided for Indian nationals. In India, Government regularly reviews the security arrangements with concerned Ministries and agencies to ensure the safety of all Indian nationals in Afghanistan.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Generation from RAPS

3486 SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Unit-1 of Rajasthan Atomic Energy Power Station (RAPS), Rawatbhata has stopped generation since October, 2004;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when it is likely to recommence the generation;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to compensate Rajasthan for loss of generation from RAPS Unit-1;

(e) whether any request have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan to enhance allocation from RAPS Unit-III to VI; and

(f) if so, the steps that have been taken so far by Government to meet the demand of the State, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The unit has been shut down for detailed assessment of its health and techno-economic evaluation for its refurbishment.

(c) It is premature at this stage to fix any time frame for the commencement of operation of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station Unit 1 as the detailed evaluation is still underway.

(d) The State of Rajasthan has an allocation from the Narora Atomic Power Station (NAPS) in addition to share from Rajasthan Atomic Power Station units 2 to 4.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The requirements of all the States in the electricity region are considered by the Ministry of Power for appropriate allocation.

Generation of Electricity from Atomic Power in Rajasthan

†3487 SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey had been conducted to generate electricity from atomic power at any other place also in addition to Rawatbhata in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.